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electric coil system of the drive unit during operation, and wherein the magnet system and the electric coil system belong to a first linear motor of the drive unit, which drive unit comprises a second linear motor with a stationary part fastened to the second frame and a movable part which is displaceable parallel to the X-direction over a guide of the stationary part, the magnet system of the first linear motor being fastened to the object table and the electric coil system of the first linear motor being fastened to the movable part of the second linear motor.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending. By this amendment, claim 3 is amended. In particular, claim 3 is rewritten in independent form. The attached Appendix includes a marked-up copy of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

I. All Pending Claims are Patentable

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 4-6 and the indication that claim 3 contains allowable subject matter. Since claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form, and the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection thereof is without merit, as will be explained below, this claim is allowable. Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance for at least the reasons set forth below.

The October 24, 2000 Amendment is objected-to under 35 U.S.C. §132, and claims 2 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, because the Office Action asserts that "the phrase 'Lorentz force' is new matter." In particular, the Office Action asserts that the specification does not disclose that the described motor coil and magnet track produces both an electric field and a magnetic field. This objection and rejection are respectfully traversed.

Page 15, lines 13-14 of the specification (which corresponds to col. 4, lines 26-28 of parent U.S. Patent No. 5,874,820) states "[t]he motor coil and track combinations are part no. LM-310 from Trilogy Company of Webster Texas." As indicated in the attached October 16, 2001 letter to Mr. Lee (the inventor of this application) from Mr. Bruce Beakley, President of